August 21, 2020

Dear Steel Valley Families,

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. Over the summer, Steel Valley staff and administrators have been preparing for the beginning of the school year. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted every facet of our families and our school district and the number of confirmed cases in Allegheny County continues to fluctuate.

As you may recall, our students have the choice of following a hybrid schedule that includes two days of in-person and three days of remote instruction or a fully remote option of five days of remote learning. Students also have the ability to enroll in the Steel Valley Cyber Program.

Hybrid Student Groups:
Maroon (A-L) – these students will attend in person instruction on Monday and Tuesday
Gold (M-Z) – these students will attend in person instruction on Thursday and Friday

Currently all of our teachers are hard at work preparing in-person and remote lessons for the return of our students. Our custodial and maintenance crews have been diligently cleaning and preparing our buildings and classrooms to accommodate in-person learning at safe distances following CDC guidelines.

Contractors are finishing the newly installed and upgraded HVAC systems in the middle school and high school replacing the air handling systems and modernizing the temperature control system to provide a cleaner and more efficient heating and cooling system.

In an effort to give our staff extra time to prepare for the unanticipated challenges of the new school year, members of the administration and the Board of School Directors have made the decision to delay the start of classes. The Steel Valley Board of School Directors revised the school calendar at its August 20 regular meeting. The Opening Student Transition Day is now scheduled for Tuesday, September 8, 2020. For additional information, please visit the Return to School page on the District’s website at www.steelvalleysd.org. Here are other revised dates:

- August 25 – Middle School Meet the Principal Night via Zoom
- August 26 – High School Meet the Principal Night via Zoom
- August 27 – Barrett Elementary and Park Elementary Meet the Principal Nights via Zoom
- August 28 – First day for Teachers and Paraprofessionals
- September 8 – Opening Student Transition Day (Grades K, 5 and 9 only)
- September 9 – Remote Learning Preparation Day
- September 10 – Hybrid schedule – Gold Group (M-Z) – in person instruction
  Maroon Group (A-L) – remote instruction
The 2020-21 school year will be unlike any other that we have ever experienced. The safety and security of our students and staff are of the utmost importance and we are excited to see our students again, whether in person or online. Thank you for your continued patience and flexibility as we work through the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic presents to us.

Sincerely,

Bryan M. Macuga
Substitute Superintendent